

## From The Editor...

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Well, it's been a hectic month, what with those mean little gremlins sneaking around.. I think that we've managed to root them all out, but just in case... If you see one, be sure to

Let me know, OK?

Send all gremlin reports to: [thebark@comcast.net](mailto:thebark@comcast.net). We'll gettumm all, no doubt!



Isn't it nice that the scene pictured to the left is past?

Spring is finally here, and hopefully your allergies are not on the rise like mine are...

It's enough to make even the greatest warm weather advocate wish for winter again!.

In this issue, you'll find some great articles from the club librarian and the club secretary.

Please enjoy them while you bask in the sun!

## Radio Club of Tacoma

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April, 1st 2009

The April 1st 2009 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma. President Jill Palmer K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL

Vice President: Rick Rose – KE7EMW

Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Board Member: Frank Palmer – AC7JY

Board Member: Al Burleson – K7HW

Board Member: Gary McAdams – WG7X

Board Member: Harry Adams – W7HSA

*A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 9 names on the attendance roster*

**HEALTH AND WELFARE:** None reported

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Minutes from the 4 March 2009 board meeting were approved as coordinated/corrected by e-mail.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Joe Lester K7AWJ

*There was no report in the absence of the Treasurer*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Membership:** Rick Rose KE7EMW provided a lapsed membership report to the Board for review.

**Hamfest:** Larry KD4VOM reports that Hamfest planning is on track. Rick KE7EMW led a team of three who handed out over 900 of our Hamfest flyers at the Mike and Key Hamfest.

**Field Day:** Bob AD7LJ reports that he and Nick K7MO are exploring the idea of focusing mostly on new hams and recent licensees. The concept would de-emphasize the "contesting" element of the traditional Field Day in favor of engaging more new members to the club and amateur radio. There followed an energetic discussion of the merits and disadvantages of this proposal. There was a significant division of the Board members on whether the traditional Field Day format or the proposed new hams focus was the better approach. The discussion also addressed the Club's recent years Field Day format, compared to that of earlier years; par-

## Logger's Bark May, 2009

ticularly the process for deciding what bands and how many stations would be fielded and the management of field day operations. Some questioned the number of new hams that might participate based on the small number we have seen at the GOTA station in recent years. It was clear from the discussions that there is a significant difference of opinion on the merit of a sole focus on involving new hams and those preferring that we maintain a traditional Field Day format.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Franciscan Hospital Repeater Request::** Due to an apparent disconnect on the Board's approval of the Franciscan Hospital request to use the W7DK repeater at the previous board meeting, this issue was tabled again. Some believe that there is little need for a written agreement, while others think a written memorandum of agreement should be completed to assure that both parties understand what has been agreed to, and so that future players who were not a party to this original agreement will have a written document to refer to in case a question arises. There was a rather lively exchange and some clear conflict and misunderstanding of several e-mail exchanges that forced this issue to the table again. Larry KD4VOM and Bob AD7LJ will meet and work out a simple recommended agreement which will be presented to, or coordinated by e-mail with the Board. Larry has previously notified Franciscan Hospital Emergency Coordinator Davina KE7JQV that the Board has approved their use of the repeater and that they are free to begin their radio check net operations.

**Clubhouse Furnace:** There was a clarification of the project tasked last meeting to Frank AC7JY and Al K7HW to plan and price the in house replacement and installation of the furnace. The onset of warmer weather reduces the likelihood of water pipe freezing damage, and allows a more orderly research and evaluation process. We may also benefit from the current economic downturn which could result in a better price for a replacement furnace. Mindful of the need to have the project completed by next winter, a target date of 30 September was agreed to.

**Clubhouse Basement Flooding:** The topic of the basement flooding appears to be resolved by Frank AC7JY providing a sump pump.

**Lawn Care:** Although the lawn care issue was not resolved;

**Motion:** A motion was made, seconded and passed that any replacement mower would be a ride on mower.

**Property Management:** Larry KD4VOM noted that the Planning team had not yet completed its draft Property Management Standard Operating Procedure. The Board has already approved the establishment of the RCT Internet Resources Team, which has been appointed, bank accounts established and a Standard Operating Procedure established. However, until the Property Management SOP is completed and approved, there is no way to identify excess property for disposal, or property to acquire in support of club operations.

Larry circulated a draft Interim Property Selection SOP intended to establish a procedure for appointing a property selection team, define their duties and responsibilities to identify property excess to club requirements, coordinate their selections with the Club's functional managers for concurrence, and create a list of property recommendations for Board action. This draft will be circulated by e-mail for comments and recommendations. Its purpose is to provide a way for the club to begin identifying excess property for sale or auction and to allow the IRT internet auction team to get underway. The Board asked Gary WG7X if he would head up a Property Selection Team, and he agreed. Team members should have sufficient knowledge of amateur radio equipment and club operations to enable them to identify and select equipment not required for current or future club use, or for the W7OS Museum.

The Property Inventory project has stalled over the last few months. The board asked Bob AD7LJ to head up an effort to revive the property inventory project and he agreed.

**HF Station:** Gary WG7X reports that the HF Station Ten Tec has been at the factory for a couple of weeks and he is awaiting their assessment of the necessary work to be done.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**None Appeared**

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

**Book Donation:** Steve AD7VL announced that he was donating his copy of the Secret Wireless War to the Club Library. Steve also brought a book checked out from an Oregon library on early radio pioneer Lee DeForest and recommended the Club to acquire a copy for our library

**Spring Cleaning:** Larry KD4VOM noted that although we managed to do a fair amount on the 9 March session, the weather precluded any serious outside work, there remains a long list of inside and outside work remaining. As the weather improves we need to finish the exterior preparation and painting, yard work, and several inside projects as well.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Radio Active Outing:** Steve AD7VL reminded all that the Club outing to Westport's American Sunset RV park is coming up on April 10, 11 and 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be a pancake breakfast and a spaghetti dinner on Saturday.

The Club Tube Inventory continues with over two thousand identified so far

The General Class under the tutelage of Rich KR7W is working towards their final session and has had a rainy but successful field trip to Bill AD7QI's antenna farm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

This cartoon is from **June, 1941 QST Magazine**. Back then, to be a ham, you had to copy Morse code to get your license, or "ticket, as it was called.

The ARRL promoted hams to copy off the air and receive a "Code Proficiency" certificate. With that certificate you could get a good paying job with our Government to help support the WWII war effort in Europe.

Next time you see **Worth, W7WG**, ask him about his adventures with the RID during WWII. His job was to listen for clandestine subversive transmissions from within our country and from afar.



April 8th 2009

### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The 8 April 2009 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. President Jill Palmer K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL

Vice President: Rick Rose – KE7EMW

Secretary: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Treasurer: Joe Lester K7AWJ

Board Member: Al Burleson – K7HW

Board Member: Harry Adams – W7HSA

*A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was led by President Jill K7JIL

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Self introductions were completed and guests welcomed. There were several new hams and new members joining us at tonight's meeting. Welcome!

**ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:** There were no reports.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM**

**Correspondence & Calendar:** Larry reported the usual bank statements and utility bills, and a Hamfest Flyer for the upcoming 9 May Hamfest at Stanwood.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Joe Lester K7AWJ:**  
*Financial information available on request.*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Membership:** Rick Rose KE7EMW reports that renewals are coming along well with 303 current paid up members and 37 who have not yet renewed their memberships. Despite the March 30<sup>th</sup> deadline, the Club has extended the grace period to insure that everyone has an opportunity to renew their membership and be listed in this year's roster.

**FYBO:** Rich KR7W presented the Freeze Your Buns Off QRP winter contest award earned by our fearless team this year at Pt Defiance Park. The W7DK team came in first in every category of the contest, quite a testament to cold weather perseverance. Well Done...

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Property Selection Team:** Following the General Membership Meeting, a quorum of Board members being present, a Board **Motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Interim Property Selection Standard Operating Procedure.** *A copy of the approved Interim Property Selection SOP is attached to the original copy of these minutes.*

**PROGRAM – INSTANT ELMER:** Ken Gibson N7ELF facilitated an active and informative open discussion under the title of "Instant Elmer". Questions ranged from the best bands during the daytime, the grayline and its use, the solar cycle, best bands for night use, best bands for low solar cycle as well as best bands for high solar cycle, the Maximum Usable Frequency calibrations, the HF beacon system and its use, various on line references for determining propagation patterns, the use of WWV for propagation information, and other topics of interest to new hams. Several recommendations were made to help new Hams as they explore the hobby. Contesters are courteous but focused and may be put off by a contact that hasn't taken the time to learn the necessary data exchange for a given contest, which hurts the active contender in terms of time and score. Most recommended use of the approved phonetic alphabet, as well as not running your call so fast that others cannot copy it. Take care to stay within your licensed bands. Listening was also highlighted as a key way for new hams to learn the lay of the land. Many of the questions arising and addressed tonight already have good explanations in the various license manuals and ARRL publications. There seemed to be a fair number of folks interested in a future program on contesting.

### **DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

**Radio Active Outing:** Steve Blacksten AD7VL reminded all of the Radio Active RV and Camping outing this coming weekend. There are still spaces available. There will be a spaghetti feed and a pancake breakfast as well as amateur radio activities.

**UHF/VHF Interest:** Casey WYTV reports that several have expressed interest in forming a UHF/VHF group to explore the various capabilities it offers. Casey solicited interest and is preparing a program on UHF/VHF operations for a future meeting.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**First Contact Awards:** Rick KE7EMW reports three recent "First Contacts" , and presented the traditional ARRL "First Contact" certificates to Gary Burris KE7WPH and Paul Slama - KF7BAH who were present at the meeting.

**Our Nets:** President Jill reminded all of the Club and local nets on 2 meters and 10 meters, as well as the slow CW Net and the Whisky Group.

**TUNING AND TRAFFIC:** There were several reports of recent activity on 20 meters, as well as some 1 watt contacts including Bill AD7QI, and Ken N7ELF who earned his 1000 mile on 1 watt award recently by a contact in Colorado.

**DOOR PRIZE:** The Pencil Torch door prize was won by John Clarke AC7WW.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm

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### **April 22nd 2009 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

The 22 April 2009 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. President Jill Palmer K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

Officers and board members present:  
President :Jill Palmer - K7JIL  
Vice President:Rick Rose - KE7EMW  
Secretary:Larry Watson - KD4VOM  
Treasurer: Joe Lester K7AWJ  
Board Member:Frank Palmer - AC7JY  
Board Member :Al Burleson - K7HW  
Board Member:Harry Adams - W7HSA

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 49 names on the attendance rosters

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was led by President Jill K7JIL

### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Self introductions were completed and guests welcomed.

### **ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:**

Since our last meeting we have lost long time member Dick Ohls, K7ITX who was noted for his Bunny Hunting, Humor and technical talent. Dick will be missed. Bill Wright, AD7QI is recovering from a recent stroke. Bob AD7LJ responded to Bill's QTH and took him to the hospital where he suffered a second event, but was treated and is now recovering at home.

Al AC7BU reports the passing of long time Whiskey Group member Tony Madsen N7PX in Richmond Washington, a long time participant and friend.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Larry Watson - KD4VOM

Correspondence & Calendar: Larry reports the usual bills and bank statements as well as notice of our annual Washington State Corporation report.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Joe Lester K7AWJ

Financial information available on request.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Membership: Rick Rose KE7EMW reports that our membership now stands at 307, and that the extended renewal deadline has resulted in several additional renewals. The Membership Roster is nearing publication.

VE Report: John AC7WW

On Tuesday April 14th seventeen candidates and eleven Volunteer Examiners were present at the Radio Club of Tacoma clubhouse. Twenty eight elements were graded with thirteen being passed. Three new Technician class Amateurs joined the ranks, upgrades included nine General and one Extra.

Kudos to Rich Patrick, KR7W for the General class he conducted.

A Special Testing Session will be at the LDS Church in Key Center April 25th. The next scheduled testing session will be Tuesday May 12th. And we will have another Special Testing Session at the LDS Church in Puyallup on May 30th.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort:

Harry, W7HSA Al, AC7BU  
Rich, KK7VH Rich, KR7W  
Mike, AD7TH Steve, AD7VL  
Bob, AD7LJ Jon, AD7AW  
Stephen AD7AB David, AD7BK

### **PROGRAM:** Shooting Trees

Steve Blacksten - AD7VL presented a comprehensive review of the various antenna launching systems from Sling Shot to the most recent evolution - the Golf Ball cannon. Many of the various kinds of devices were on display and explained including several tennis ball systems and earlier versions. The pros and cons and capabilities/limitations of the various systems

and the safety issues arising from their use were addressed along with a wide ranging question and answer session.

### DISCUSSION TOPICS:

**Field Day Planning:** Jill K7JIL noted that Field Day is coming soon and the Club is in search of someone to manage this year's Field Day. Bob AD7LJ has a conflict and although willing and able to assist in the planning, cannot take the lead on this year's Field Day. If interested, please contact Jill K7JIL, Bob AD7LJ or any Board member.

**Strokes and what you need to know:** Bob Purdom AD7LJ presented a short review of how to recognize a stroke and what to do when it happens. The first hour is critical for treatment to increase your odds of a successful recovery. Strokes are the 3rd leading cause of death in the United States. If you believe someone is having a stroke, ask them to smile, or what day is it or raise their arm and hold it up. Inability to do any of these simple tasks would indicate signs of a stroke. Stroke victims should immediately take two regular 325 mg aspirin as part of the self treatment process. Call 911. If you are experiencing these symptoms and cannot communicate clearly, call 911 and make any kind of mumble or noise or bang the phone. Do not hang up. Most modern cell phones are GPS equipped, make sure your phone does not have the GPS feature turned off, a pity to make the call and have it answered only for the responders to be unable to find you. Rich KR7W who has worked in a 911 center described the process they use and emphasized you should not hang up, even though you may not get an answer immediately.

**Ham needs Assistance:** Jill K7JIL reports talking to a 76 year old blind Ham W7PYV in the Bonney Lake area who needs help with a 20 / 40 meter antenna installation. If you have time and can help, please contact Jill.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**RCT and International Bunny Hunt:** Rich Patrick KR7W

**Yakima Hamfest:** Rick KE7EMW and Al K7HW attended this year's Yakima Hamfest and passed out flyers for our August Hamfest. Al judged the Yakima Hamfest as improved over last year's.

**Mother's Day Brunch:** Jill, K7JIL reminded all of the upcoming RCT annual Mother's Day Brunch

at the Clubhouse on May 17th -- Pancakes, eggs and fun.

**RCT's Radio Active Outing:** Steve AD7VL reported on the recent RV and Camping outing to Westport's Sunset RV Park. There were 26 attendees whose enthusiasm was not "dampened" by the foul weather. Bunny hunting was soggy, but fun, as was the geocaching exercise. Pot luck, Pancake Breakfast and just plain relaxing were the order of the day along with some hidden Easter eggs. The RF activity was a bit limited, but there none the less. Thanks to Rich KR7W and Pat WT7N who helped with the Bunny Transmitters and provided a couple of videos; Bunny Hunting, and Dayton Hamfest for our education and entertainment. A show of hands indicates interest in another outing, but all preferred warm and dry weather... Don't we all???

### Tuning and Traffic:

Dale K7DNH reports several contacts, and Worth W7WG noted recent 2 meter repeater contacts in the Bellingham area, where it was discovered several repeaters are operating on the same frequency. Lynn K7OKS reports activity on the lower end of the 40 meter bands in late afternoon/early evenings.

There were also reports of a visit to San Luis Obispo, California where the local truck drivers all seem to be hams, with 2 meter chatter most of the day as they go about their business.

**Nets:** Jill K7JIL reminded all of our Tuesday night 2 meter net on the 147.28 repeater at 7:30, and the weekly Sunday night 10 meter net on 28.375 at 8 pm (Lynn, the usual net controller will be unable this Sunday)

Worth W7WG reminded all of Pete KK7QW's slow code net on Monday evening 28.150 at 7:30 pm

**Door Prize:** The Helping Hand table vice was won by member Charles Givens.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40

VE REPORT John AC7WW

On Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup> seventeen candidates and eleven Volunteer Examiners were present at the Radio Club of Tacoma clubhouse. Twenty eight elements were graded with thirteen being passed. Three new Technician class Amateurs joined the ranks, upgrades included nine General and one Extra.

Kudos to Rich Patrick, KR7W for the General class he conducted.

A Special Testing Session will be at the LDS Church in Key Center April 25<sup>th</sup>. The next scheduled testing session will be Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>. And we will have another Special Testing Session at the LDS Church in Puyallup on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort:

Harry, W7HSA  
Al, AC7BU  
Rich, KK7VH  
Rich, KR7W  
Mike, AD7TH

Steve, AD7VL  
Jon, AD7AW  
Stephen, AD7AB  
Bob, AD7LJ  
David, AD7BK

VE REPORT John AC7WW

The traveling VE team of the Radio Club of Tacoma was on the move Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> 2009. Our course was set for the LDS Church in Key Center. Bob Purdom, AD7LJ, successfully delivered four of us to the testing site at three in the afternoon. David, AD7BK, was able to navigate from Port Orchard to join us.

Eight candidates passed element two to become Technician Amateur operators. Six of those tried, with no success, to pass element three.

Next scheduled testing session at the clubhouse will be Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup> at seven PM.

The LDS group in Gig Harbor/Key Center is planning a General course with a testing session Saturday afternoon, May 23.

And we have been asked to conduct a testing session on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> in Puyallup.

Thanks to the following VE's for giving of their time on a Saturday afternoon.

Jon, AD7AW  
Bob, AD7LJ

Bud, KE7GB  
David, AD7BK



# Happy Birthday

# May

Day	Name	Call	RCT Number
2	Anna Winter	K7ANA	2228
2	Bob Vandenheuvel	KE7ECQ	2281
2	Bruce Mackey	KD7UAQ	2180
2	Dan Warner	KB7HIN	2318
2	Gary McFadden	K7UPG	2197
3	Al Churchill	AC7BU	1988
6	Heidi Holme		2274
6	Roddney Saucedo	WV7O	2156
8	Andy Evancho	WA7JGO	2081
10	Dick Giguere	KA7FXQ	2087
10	Phil Lux	KE7PGH	2339
11	Collin Gibson		2368
14	Nick Olson	N7BCV	692
17	Herb Young	KB7SRN	2204
18	Bob Reed	KE7JFV	2313
18	Marsha Stril	KE7WPR	2377
18	Mike Wingren	AB7CQ	2144
19	Rob Lee	K7TGU	1550
20	Chris Jensen	W7YX	623
21	Wade Palmer	WA7OHG	1783
24	Jim Bentley	KE7WPF	2379
25	Brett Erwin	NU7DX	2361
25	Kathleen Nace	N0EYK	1352
25	Thomas Landers	AD7RE	2363
26	Gary Pankey	WS7J	2277
27	Dick Ryan	W7RGD	310
27	Scott Peterson	KA7IOX	982
29	Steve Russman	WB7WUX	870
31	Mary Kelley	W7SKR	317



**CQ FROM THE W7DK LIBRARY**

Douglas E. Oakman AD7AV, Head Librarian

***Purpose Statement: The W7DK library exists to preserve the history of the club and of amateur radio as well as to provide useful technical information to members.***

***Policy: Library items do not circulate, except those in a specially designated circulating collection.***

***Items donated to the library are, by decision of the library committee, kept in the collection, sold at Hamfest or on eBay, or put on the Saturday free tables. Donated items in any case benefit the club in general.***

A little history. When I joined the club in 2002, the library was in something of a state of neglect. It's very difficult for an academic to resist books. And I like old books in particular. Apparently, much had been donated to the club over the years, but there was no existing inventory or catalog of all the holdings. Sometime during the spring or summer of 2003, former President Mick Pier asked me if I would be willing to take on the job as club librarian. ...

OK, I took up the challenge. That fall of 2003, I was on a sabbatical from Pacific Lutheran University, and I spent many solitary hours going through all the books, journals and magazines, pamphlets, instruction manuals, and so on. I had a first inventory finished by early 2004. Not being a professional librarian, I had many doubts about how to proceed. Should the catalog be done in the Library of Congress or Dewey Decimal systems? How were labels to be affixed? After lengthy conversations with several librarians, and my wife's insistence, it became obvious that the Dewey Decimal system was the logical choice for a library like ours.

My initial inventory turned up around 500 items. A library committee was formed, consisting at first of Pat Wingerter WT7N, Al Ferguson N7OMS, Mike Compton KB7ZDR, Gary McAdams WG7X, and Steven Morton AD7AB. We discussed how to make the library useful to the membership; we developed rudimentary policies for accepting donations. The process of labeling books and journals has seemed to take forever, and labeling proceeded at a glacial pace from 2005 through 2008. A good deal of culling took place in 2004-2007, so that the holdings decreased to under 400 items.

I had many doubts along the way about the wisdom of taking on this project. Yet the labeling did get done. The holes in our QST holdings were backfilled. As the labeling progressed, Chuck Kemmer AC7QN, Rich Patrick KRTW, Pat Wingerter WT7N, and Al Ferguson N7OMS took on the project of building new shelves, painting, and refurbishing the museum and library areas. The museum and library committees began to work very closely together in order to coordinate work with the books and work with the museum equipment. Moreover, the crew remained intent on providing a useful library and pleasant surroundings for browsing.

This brings the story down to the present. *Here are some of the achievements from 2008:*

- ✧ Shelving work is nearly completed
- ✧ Computers are networked, almost ready for library use
- ✧ Labeling of books and RCT materials almost finished
- ✧ QST series completed (early years available by CDs and ARRL internet)
- ✧ Instruction manuals will be alphabetized and indexed only (no labels)
- ✧ Photographic albums are in library database, name register will be compiled
- ✧ Historical items will be indexed only (no labels)

Current library holdings now are 511 items on the shelves. In addition, the library computer holds fifty-two ebooks—mostly classics dealing with the early history of radio. Rights to the use of these public-domain materials are under investigation. Additions to the collection must be carefully considered given space limitations. Anyone who donates something to the collection can request a receipt for tax-deduction purposes and can expect that materials donated will be handled by the published policy.

Regular library reports are now made annually to the RCT board. The board approved a \$350 budget for 2008 and a \$450 budget for 2009. The budget covers acquisition of new books as well as historic treasures. Regular subscriptions must also be covered. Membership should think of the collection upstairs as a reference library. The books upstairs always remain at the W7DK clubhouse. Just recently, the library committee began to form a small circulating collection downstairs in the education room. These books are for members only, to be signed out and back in after no longer than a three-week period. Circulating books will be clearly marked with red tape and a C prefixed to the Dewey call number to differentiate these books from the reference collection.

*Here are 2009 goals set by the library committee:*

- ✎ Compete library area, provide secure/locking areas, make space as comfortable as possible for browsing and reading
- ✎ Complete the paper series, finish binding and labeling old BARKs
- ✎ Finish all aspects of computer installations (e.g., printing, scanning capabilities)
- ✎ Pursue appropriate new acquisitions
- ✎ Develop policies for use of library and computer(s) by membership
- ✎ Further integrate library and museum efforts
- ✎ Work with eBay group to benefit the club
- ✎ Establish clear systems for cataloging and maintaining the collection, coordination of work by librarians
- ✎ Clarify procedures for handling donations (Saturday table, Hamfest, eBay, recycle)
- ✎ Properly dispose of extra QSTs
- ✎ Integrate historical archives of club into library as appropriate
- ✎ Establish a small circulating library for membership
- ✎ Highlight library holdings through periodic book reports (or displays) to the membership

This is a very ambitious agenda. Since the library committee works entirely on a voluntary basis, completion of projects will be done as time allows. We welcome your suggestions about library holdings. We also ask you to guard our collection to make sure that it remains a resource available for the entire club for a long time to come.



**W7WG's Key**

Dateline: May 2009

## Sparky's "View from the Shack"

*This and that around the club, and more...*

*Sparky's welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs. Editorial philosophy — While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.*

## Our Legacy

- Our Legacy...
- Bunny Hunting anyone?
- Radio Active Outing
- View from the Shack

This month, Sparky continues our trip down memory lane, with the help of some of the many Radio Club of Tacoma historical photos and documents. . Here's a couple that show we've always had an interest in both food and fun...



We have a huge stash of memorable and some not-so-memorable photos from our archive collection. On your right is a photo, probably of a testing session, an anxious student, and someone many of you know and only a few can identify...



## Bunny Hunting Anyone???

Ft Steilacoom Park is the scene of the Radio Club of Tacoma's participation in the International Bunny Hunting (AKA Amateur Radio Direction Finding ARDF) exercise. Rich KR7W, Chuck AC7QN and Al N7OMS have scoured the area for suitable locations, and settled on the historic Ft Steilacoom park area. The hunt will run from around noon till four pm on May 9th. Come, join in the fun, there are usually spare setups for you to borrow. Its not only a good emergency communications skill to acquire, but also a healthy outside exercise that won't



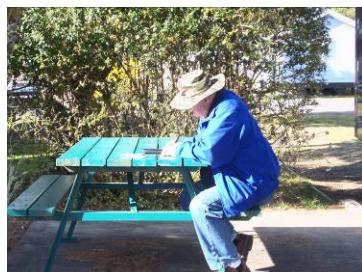
put too much of a strain on those bones.

## Radio Active Outing

Sponsored by Steve Blacksten AD7VL, over twenty folks descended on the American Sunset RV park in Westport Washington to enjoy an early spring outing. Despite dicey weather, multiple "Bunnies" were hidden and hearty hunters turned loose to find them. One Geocache was hidden and found even though the finder had



their GPS system in simulation mode, that's either talent, or real luck, or... The American Lake Park is very nice and well appointed making the



weather much less of a problem. We had a great ad hoc set of snacks on Friday evening, and a super potluck anchored by a big pot of spaghetti on Saturday. Sunday morning we enjoyed a pancake breakfast and the fearless travelers braved wind and rain to return to Tacoma. Actual radio operations were limited for various reasons few contacts were made, but we all learned a lot from the experience and will be better prepared next time.

Rich KR7W and Pat WT7N joined the bunch and Rich set out the transmitters, Thanks for making the bunny hunt possible. For those of you who missed the event, here's a few of the photos.



### Attaboys:

Sparky wants to tip the hat to Bob AD7LJ for his recent haircut for our Clubhouse lawn, we were worried we'd have to put up "No Hunting" signs. Thanks Bob. The Classroom carpet has been shampooed by KD4VOM's XYL Janice, it sure needed it.

A special thanks to President Jill K7JIL Frank AC7JY and Dale K7DNH for the helping hand they extended to Jim Nelson W7PYV who asked for assistance with his HF antenna system. Frank and the crew identified the problem, made necessary repairs and got things working again. A special note for Charles KD7UAN who graciously offered his vertical antenna to Jim, but was not needed after Frank and the crew found Jim's systems just needed some adjustments.

Ken N7ELF's Elmer program and Steve Blacksten's coverage of the Antenna Launchers continue an outstanding run of programs for our meetings and are probably a reason the club membership meetings are steadily increasing in attendance.

### View from the Shack...

The annual Kirkreit Picnic site has been secured for 13 June at the Spanaway Park shelter D and ; 2009 Hamfest planning is taking shape for the August 8th event; and early rumblings of this years Field Day have been heard and the ARRL has already generated this year's Logo...



*Sparky*

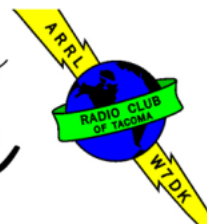
*"Always remember that you're unique, — Just like everybody else"*

#### The Disclaimer...

*These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.*



*The Radio Club of Tacoma's*  
**Logger's Bark**



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**Membership Info:** FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$30 per calendar year. \$25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

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### *Radio Club Repeaters*

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5      Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970

Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

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***The Loggers Bark***

**Radio Club of Tacoma, INC.**

**PO Box 11188**

**Tacoma, WA 98411**

**To RCT Member:**



# MAY 2009 EVENTS

**CLUB MEETINGS:** Wednesdays May 13th and 27th at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Board Meeting:** Wednesday May 6th, 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse. All members are/were welcome.

**Bark Deadline:** Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

**Support our club:** Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

**Check into the weekly two meter net:** Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz.

**Check into the weekly 10 meter net:** Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz.